

REMARKS

This Response is in reply to the Final Office Action mailed on November 30, 2004. Claims 1, 3-8, 11, 13, 15, and 16 are pending in the application. Claim 11 has been amended. Claims 9 and 12 have been canceled. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 1 and 3-8 are allowed. No new matter has been added. Entry and consideration of the amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 11 has been amended to include the limitation of "disposing new, bigger reel spools in a circulation between the reel-up for the paper machine and a rereeler preceding the unwinding station for the finishing machine, or in a circulation between the reel-up for the paper machine and the unwinding station for the finishing machine." Support for the amendment can be found in the specification on page 3, lines 31-36; page 6, lines 19-20 and 32-34; and page 7, lines 28-31. No new matter has been added.

Rejection of claims 9, 11-13, 15, and 16

Claims 9, 11-13, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,055,313) in view of Gay et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2,092,966) and Hutzenlaub (U.S. Patent No. 4,117,986). The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 9 and 12 have now been canceled. The Examiner indicated that claims 1, 7 and 8 are allowable. Therefore, by reason of their dependency from allowed independent claims 1, 7, and 8, the Applicant asserts that claims 13, 15, and 16 are also patentable over the cited prior art.

As stated above, claim 11 has been amended to include the limitation of bigger reel spools. None of the references cited above teach a modernization method where new, bigger reel spools are disposed in a certain area of the paper production line to form a circulation of their own, as claimed in amended claim 11. Applicant submits that even if the three references were combined, the result would not be the present invention.

Furthermore, the modernization method claimed by amended claim 11 is a method which makes the production method of claim 1 possible. Since claim 1 has been allowed and amended claim 11 claims a method that can be performed on an existing production line to allow the method of claim 1 to be carried out, it follows that amended claim 11 should also be allowed.

Accordingly, the Applicant asserts that claims 11, 13, 15 and 16 are patentable over the cited references. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

Conclusion

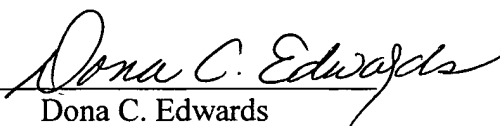
In view of the above argument it is submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been overcome and should be removed and the present application should now be in condition for allowance.

The Applicant notes that there is no indication that the drawings are acceptable. The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner provide the status of the drawings in the next formal communication.

Should any changes to the claims and/or specification be deemed necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss the same.

This Response is being filed with a Petition for a one-month extension of time. In the event that any other fee is required for the entry of this Amendment, the Commissioner is hereby specifically authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0518 in the name of Steinberg & Raskin, P.C. An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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